

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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The Passing Show.

War doesn't make for the survival of the fittest but for the fattest.

The Australian "Worker" is advocating Industrial Unionism. What next?

Many clergymen and priests in Europe are fighting in the ranks. They have pulled off the garb of pretence and put on the uniform of reality.

Books on war are being issued by nearly every publishing house in Europe. Most of them are nonsensical.

Capitalism has reached the point when books are being written in defence of its existence.

The Sydney newsboys' strike has caused some people to make the special edition of the International Socialist Review a special opener to many.

Newsboys selling revolutionary papers instead of the usual daily slop was one of the startling incidents of the strike.

The paper in Berlin is still kept in ignorance of the real state of affairs. "S.M. Herald." Here, of course, the public gets the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

If the Russians have killed as many Austrians and Germans as they say they have, and if the Germans have killed as many Russians as they say they have, how is it that the fight hasn't stopped? Both sides must be dead long ago.

All dealers in rags, bones, and lead should make for France and Belgium. There is a big trade to be done there in their line.

The international pawnbroker is having the time of his life now.

A London business man said in December last: "Do you shopping today; tomorrow you may be broke."

Tourists are waiting for the Hotel d'Heaven's to be completed. They are proceeding by way of a drop.

U.S. Government is solving the unemployment problem of its soldiers by sending them work, they are encouraged to turn to selling on the line, the land is keeping. Many of the boys are going back to the soil—at Potter's field.

Letters are arriving now from men on their way to the front. Some of them comment adversely on the food and general conditions of the trade of soldiering, and desire the "international" to warn all homebodies off the job. The writers evidently expected a kind of picnic or holiday trip when they joined, and if they are now disillusioned they have only themselves to thank or blame. We couldn't warn homebodies against enrolling, only experience can teach them, because they feel instead of reason. Besides, it would be suicidal for us to endeavour to keep a lot of drunken idiots from interrupting our meetings when they desire to go and fight and get shot dead.

It costs £765,116 to run the seven parliaments of the Commonwealth, and the cost of the hot-air factories is still increasing.

The stable establishment of the King of the Belgians arrived at Southampton from Antwerp, and proceeded next day to London. There were 55 horses and 32 carriages, with 41 servants. "—London Truth." We are sorry for the Belgian poor, and hope all patriotic Australians are subscribing freely to the Belgian Relief Fund. King Albert will be very lonely if some of his cronies are not assisted to England with their horses, carriages, and servants. Andy Fisher should send another £100,000 at least to assist the Belgians.

"Conservatism is feudalism, Liberalism

Modern Version of an Old Proverb.



"Women and Children Must Work—and Men Must Weep."

New York Call.

is commercialism, and Socialism only in its essence democracy."—Edward Carpenter.

"Wherein the affluent classes suffer most in the present day, perhaps, is the matter of health. Into that heaven it is indeed hard for the rich man to enter."—Edward Carpenter.

"I confess, without shame, that I am tired and sick of the war. Its glory is all moonshine. It is only those who have neither heard the shrieks and groans of the wounded, who cry aloud for more blood, more vengeance, more desolation. War is hell."—General Sherman.

The Kaiser and Sir Edward Grey are blamed for provoking the war, but neither was powerful enough to produce it. There was something at the back of them. And there has been something at the back of all wars. In ancient times wars were deliberately undertaken for conquest of the land and slaves. The abolition of chattel slavery provoked a bitter civil war in America. The Thirty Years War in Germany involved the rival interests of Catholic and Protestant clericals. The present war with the balance-of-power theory is but a clash of interests, and when the interest in the balance-of-power is driven from men's minds by economic forces, as was the interest in chattel slavery and religious domination, another cause of war will go. In this materialist conception of history Socialists hold the key to the problem of war and its solution. They know better than any other school that war can only be abolished by a fundamental alteration in the economic system of society itself.

Federal Labor's death roll since 1910:—James Hutchinson, E. L. Batchelor (Minister for Home Affairs), C. E. Fraser (P.M.G.), F. A. Roberts (Hon. Minister), Senator McGregor (Vice-President of the Executive Council), J. A. Arthur (Minister for External Affairs), and E. F. Jolly. The list is a remarkable one, and seems to suggest that Labor men are unequal to the mental strain put upon them by the cares of office. They are mostly men who have been manual workers, and for such to be suddenly subjected to severe mental labor is perhaps too much. In politics there is room at the top, but the effort to keep there must be very trying to those who have been at the bottom from their youth up.

"It seems a terrible thing to say, but it is true nevertheless, that the great danger for the working class lies in a premature peace concluded by rulers and diplomats. Now that the catastrophe has come, the welfare of the working people makes us hope that it may be complete and final. It should continue until the present governments are crushed; until the people, seeing Europe transformed into a cemetery, seeing their fields devastated and their homes ruined, and reflecting on the destruction of their lives, decide to make an end once for all to the present political form of government, taking in their hands the ordering of life and labor, and substituting for military and political organ-

isation a sane and fraternal administration of society.

"The danger in the present catastrophe lies in this, that the rulers and politicians are commencing to be afraid, and in self-preservation may conclude a premature peace. Indeed, it is not impossible that Germany, England, Russia, and France, under the threat of internal revolutions, may come secretly to a diplomatic compromise, and may conclude a peace which would only be a truce, and would leave Europe, industrially and socially, in the same condition as before."—George D. Herron.

In its religious column last Saturday, Sydney "Daily Telegraph" printed a prayer said to have been written by Lord Roberts for the soldiers during the South African war. The prayer opens piously: "Almighty Father, I have often sinned against Thee. Oh, wash me in the precious blood of the Lamb of God." Printing the prayer at the present time seems to indicate that the "D.T." hopes that the soldiers will paraphrase it into "O, wash me in the precious blood of the Germans."

The Woolahra (Sydney) Labor League has just made a discovery, and has passed the following resolution on to the Annual Conference: "That Conference protests against the action of the Labor party in entering into a compact with the Liberal party not to go on with the Labor platform and legislation as contentions, without first consulting the P.L.L. executive."

The annual conference of office-hunters, land-sharks, small shopkeepers, politicians, and estate agents is almost sure to turn the motion down, but it will do good nevertheless. It will indicate that the slaves in the league are beginning to wake up to the fact that there is an alliance between leading Libs. and Labs. Others have long seen that there is no difference between them.

Lithgow unionists, down and out, on short time, short food, poor lodging, and evil working conditions, areas patriotic as they make 'em. They are refusing to work with men who will not pay the patriotic levy. It is reported that the anti-patriots are being dismissed, and the others are happy in consequence in their salubrious surroundings. What a wonderful breed the workers are!

Robert Blatchford complains of the censorship. His writings have lately been freely blue-pencilled, and Robert doesn't like it. But the censorship is an inevitable part of militarism, and he has been vigorously advocating militarism for a long time. When he gets a few more doses of his own physic, he may be cured of his malady.

Has Labor organised, fought, suffered, and sacrificed to win elections and put the party in power, only to give the exploiter all the advantages, while it is brusquely requested to stay out on the door-step?—The Australian "Worker." It seems that it has.

Several land seekers arrived last week from Vancouver. Their destination was Victoria. Poor, misguided slaves!

A gang of Sydney leading citizens is withholding supplies of bran and pollard from poultry farmers in the country. Funny, isn't it, how Sydney sharpers get one set of farmers to send their produce to Sydney to be withheld from another set!

The following verses are being widely circulated in America. They illustrate the remarkable change wrought in public opinion in England by the capitalist press within a very few years. They were written some years ago when Russia and France were the antagonists of Britain, and constitute a fine commentary on the elasticity of "national honor" and the shortness of the ordinary bonehead's memory.

Draw the sword, Britannia,
For God and for the right,
Draw't against the Russian bear
With heart as black as night.
Draw it against the tyrant
Who has raised his bloodstained hands
Against Europe's freedom,
And her fair and smiling lands.

Britons: let it ne'er be said,
That England's colours blend
With those of murdering Slavs;
That we our aid to tyrants lend.
That is not England's charter,
That shows not British breed,
Our birthright thus to barter,
To further Russian greed.

Britons: wake from your slumbers,
Fling your colours to the breeze,
And gather in your numbers
The Lord of all the seas
Down with the savage villains,
The Russian and the Gaul,
Who plot revenge and plunder,
Hear freedom's trumpet call!

Away with lying treaties,
That British hands enslave;
Stand up for "God and Freedom;"
So shall our colours wave
As in the past victorious,
The beacon of the brave.

Then draw the sword Britannia,
But draw it for the right,
Stand by our Tenton brothers
Now risen in their might.
Side by side with the black, white, red,
Let our colours float unfurled,
Then shall men see the Saxon race,
The Masters of the World.

The earthquake in Italy, in which thousands of people perished and some 60 towns were destroyed, brings up the old question of why people should reside in dangerous places. The history of Italy shows that time and again such catastrophes have happened, yet the people continue to take the risk, of residing in the danger zone and being buried in lava. To ask why they do so is equal to asking why the working people have in the past sacrificed their lives in dangerous callings and deadly working conditions and why even now they continue doing so in order that a favored few may live in the safest and best localities and enjoy the best things that the earth can produce. In Ireland the common people were driven into the bogs and morasses and on to the inhospitable crags of the sea shore to make their homes. In Scotland they were driven out to make room for deer and other game. Even here in Australia—enlightened and democratic Australia—towns have been built in places subject to periodic inundation or on inaccessible heights, so that land speculators—not to give them a worse name—might hold more suitable lands back for a rise. In like manner, the majority are content to live in slums in dark unhealthy lanes, so that rent-lords in human shape may enjoy life in more favored situations. And the common people cannot see their plight. They cannot understand those who tell them that they should not submit to be used so impudently and disgracefully as they are. In fact, they will resist any attempt to better their conditions. They are ignorant and foolish because of their ignorance. Their plight should appeal to the class-conscious and enlightened and make them determined that at least suitable literature shall be available to such as are able and willing to read.

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Write on paper not larger than letter-paper, and thin enough to avoid getting us fined for over-weight.

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Write briefly and clearly, as long and undecipherable articles stand no chance of publication.

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Slavery, the earth-born Cyclops, fattest of the giant brood,
Sons of brutal Force and Darkness, who have
drenched the earth with blood,
Famished in his self-made desert, blinded by our
purer day,
Gropes in yet unblasted regions for his miserable
prey;
Shall we guide his gory fingers where our helpless
children play.—Lowell.

Italian Socialists and the War.

Anti-war demonstrations have occurred in all the large centres of Italy. The rioters constructed Barricades in several towns.—Press Cable.

The above cablegram indicates that our Italian comrades are fighting hard to keep their country neutral in the present crisis. We may be sure that they are at bottom the cause of the present anti-war demonstrations, for the non-Socialist is mostly patriotically jingoistic and would be more likely to clamor for war than to erect barricades and fight against it.

The stand taken by the Italian Socialists in the present crisis constitutes one of the most noble pages of the history of Socialism.

Soon after the war commenced the Italian Socialist Party issued a manifesto which defined its attitude and declared its determination to fight to maintain the neutrality of Italy. The Manifesto after inveighing against the misery caused by the war asserted that neither this nation or that could be held to be responsible for it, but that the present capitalist system, based upon the internal rivalry of the classes, and the external rivalry of the States, was alone responsible. The Manifesto declared:—

Italy alone of all the greater countries has been able to keep out of the gigantic conflict and to declare itself neutral. To bring about this decision of the Government the resolute attitude assumed by the Socialist Party and the proletariat ever since the commencement of the crisis has not been without effect. As a matter of fact, the Triple Alliance treaty is dead, though it still has a sterile existence, in the diplomatic protocols. The declaration of neutrality received the unanimous approval of public opinion. But since a few weeks ago parties without a large following and other currents are agitating to push the Government towards intervention in the European conflagration. . . . Alone, against all this crowd, stands the Socialist Party, immune from the contagion which is spreading, and against which it calls upon you, proletarians, to take the necessary steps for defence.

The Socialist Party, it goes on, cares nothing for the scorn with which the monopolists of patriotism point at it as a Party hostile to the Fatherland:

The Socialist Party reaffirms clearly the existence of a profound and unalterable an-

tagonism between War and Socialism.

Workers! The pretexts by which you are led to the shambles are not worth the waste of human lives and treasure which war necessitates. Hold your meetings! Resist the pro-war infatuation, oppose your demonstrations to those of parties in favor of the war. Tell them, especially after Lybia, that Italy is in need of peace. Tell them in any case Italy, by being the only great Power that has remained neutral in the conflict, has had thereby indicated to her a mission as mediator between the belligerents, as proclaimer, on the day of settlement, of the great principles which must be the basis of the society of States: the abolition of armaments, the appeal to the votes of the peoples, the justice of the decisions. Proclaim loudly and strongly that you do not intend to renounce your class autonomy.

The Socialist Party makes this appeal to you and trusts it is not in vain. The Socialist deputies will not vote the military credits for a war of aggression, resulting from a grotesque and contradictory foreign policy made up of expedients and devoid of ideals, for which the Italian governing classes and the dynasty are responsible.

The Italian Socialist Party reaffirms its abiding faith in the Workers' International, destined to arise greater and stronger from the blood and the ruin of the present conflagration of nations.

It is in the name of the International of Socialism that we ask you, proletarians of Italy, to maintain and to accentuate your immutable opposition to War. "Viva il Socialismo!"

THE EXECUTIVE OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY.
THE SOCIALIST PARLIAMENTARY GROUP.

In September the Party undertook a sort of referendum and asked other organisations to vote yes or no on the preservation of Italian neutrality. Hundreds of Socialist, labor union, co-operative and neutral benefit organisations took part in the ballot the result of which was an almost unanimous vote for neutrality.

The reply of the Italian Socialists to the Socialist envoys from Germany was a wise, courageous, and just statement of their position. It stamped the Socialist Party of Italy as one of the truest friends of International Socialism that the world holds.

The cable quoted above indicates that the Italian Socialists are carrying their fight for neutrality to the point of insurrection, and that the authorities who are for war have to deal with determined men behind barricades in the streets. What might have been had other Socialists fought as hard as they have is not hard to conjecture. In that case the warmongers and secret diplomats might have had to face a general international revolt instead of the present infamous war.

The Diesel Engine.

The marine oil engine has arrived. Sydney has been visited for the first time by a vessel propelled by Diesel oil engines. The Annam is a Danish vessel of 5,200 tons and is built exclusively for cargo carrying. Her appearance is totally different from that of the orthodox coal burning ship. In place of prominent funnels only two small flues running up alongside one of the four masts are visible. The working of the winches is done by electric motors. Her engine room is a revelation in itself. Instead of a dark dirty and grimy cavern conjuring up visions of the inferno there is a roomy well-lighted apartment extending right up to the vessels deck. Not a lamp burned in the engine room and as the vessel lay at the wharf everything was clean and bright. No grit lay about, no dirt was on the spotless decks. The engines themselves represented that the ship could carry fuel enough for a voyage round the world. Her engine staff consisted of four engineers, four assistants and four greasers. Imagine the displacement of wage-labour which this vessel represented. No firemen, no trimmers, no coal lumpers, no coal miners. No jobs for all those engaged in coal mining and its allied trades. Truly a revelation in engineering. Yet this is an engine which is only in the infancy of its development. The displacement of the wage-labourer proceeds apace and the heavy dirty toil of the common labourer becomes unnecessary. No one will regret that the stokers fearful toil is becoming a thing of the past. The present system enables a privileged few to reap all the benefits of the machine, while the worker because he produces more gets less and is unemployed. The privileged class must be overthrown and the machine made the property of society.

The misunderstanding of Germany is profound in England. The "Record," an English paper, says:—"The bitter hatred of England, whatever its pretexts, really is because as a nation she loves and honors the Bible, and is the home of Evangelical Protestant Religion." The "Record," evidently doesn't know that the Kaiser loves the Bible and takes it as his guide, and that he even keeps it by his bedside so that he may consult its inspired pages when he wakes in the night.

The Utility of Voting.

As our readers will see, the Management of our little propaganda sheet has decided that we must cease publication for the present. Before, however, putting up the shutters it might be useful to have a little straight talk with some of our excellent friends who have disagreed with the policy of the paper, holding, as they do, that it is pure waste of time to vote for Parliamentary representatives or to persuade others to do so. That the number of those who think in this way is not only very large, but is increasing, it is useless to deny; and when one starts reckoning up the betrayals of the people by their specially chosen representatives in Parliament, and by those who are constantly selling out their principles in order to push themselves forward as candidates for "Parliamentary honours," we confess to having much emotional sympathy with the anarchists who wash their hands of all political action. We have not forgotten how William Morris, in his "News from Nowhere," described symbolically the Houses of Parliament at Westminster; and if they smelt ill during his lifetime, the reek of them in the twentieth century is even more pungent and unpleasant in the nostrils of those who have not taken the precaution to saturate their handkerchiefs with bouquet de Marconi or with essence de Champ de bataille. We also agree that the "Machine" has been so cleverly adjusted by those who have the working of it that it automatically guillotines anyone who, in the interests of the rank and file of the people, attempts to interfere with its cogs or fly-wheels.

But for all that we maintain that Parliament is only what it is because the people allow it to be so. If the people decided to have and to read their own papers instead of the papers of the Yellow Press and of their Masters, they could educate themselves politically instead of being led by the nose by those whose interest it is to feed them intellectually with lies sandwiched between turf and football news. If the people—the workers—realised that their trade unions were the most important thing in life to them, because they should form the arm of recruits, both men and women who, when they are trained and disciplined and armed with the vote, will be able to take the field against the master class, and win political and social economic victory for the erstwhile wage-slaves. If the people—the workers—realised what wage-slavery meant to them intellectually and spiritually as well as physically; if it could be brought home to them one day with a flash how they are daily robbed and scoffed at for allowing themselves to be robbed, they would use every weapon to their hand, including the vote, to gain their full freedom and to put an end to wage-slavery. But at present they are still content to read their masters' newspapers; they have but little use for revolutionary trade unionism, and they realise so little their subject position, that they will almost invariably listen to the exploiter who comes to them with devious promises of reform, rather than to the propagandist who tells them that reforms were devised by those who desire to bolster up and prolong the present system of society; and that nothing short of dynamic changes in the structure of that society can be of any use to the enslaved workers. Anti-Parliamentarians, therefore, should not condemn Parliament, but should condemn those who have neither the imagination nor the force of character to bend Parliament to their own ends. To begin with, the people should decide that members should be sent to Parliament by the vote of all the adults in the country, and that the right to elect should include the right to be elected; that all election expenses should be paid, and all elections take place on the same day. The new Parliament thus elected should be pledged to scrap all useless Parliamentary procedure and machinery; and those who sent them there should see to it that their representatives were their servants and not their haughty masters. It is a change of thought, a revolution in thinking on all these matters that is required, much more than a change of outward forms. When the new thought is formed the old shell will break away and crumble into dust.

As a specimen of the well-meant criticism we have received from friends, I offer the following extract:—"Of course, for anyone who believes in Parliamentaryism, yours is the only reasonable attitude, but, as I think I told you, I feel that it is all the purest waste of time; because the master class has complete control of Parliament (and Parliament controls the Army), and I do not see how the proletariat can possibly improve their condition by voting, for the Caucus will always see to it that none but 'sound' men sit in Parliament. . . . As far as I am now able to see, I feel it is a great pity your great influence and intellectual vigor should be wasted on anything so unim-

Why Women Should Understand Socialism.

BY J.L.

Dear Editor,—If you will grant me space in the columns of your paper, I would like to try and show your women readers why they should try and understand Socialism. The hope of the future lies in woman, honoured, cultured, and free, and if women not understanding it and all it means to them and their children, use their power to vote against Socialism, they will be retarding their own emancipation. Only through Socialism can woman win her place by man's side. Only through Socialism can she gain honor and happiness and freedom. The object of my trying to write through your pages is to try and persuade woman to study Socialism, to try and find out what it means and where it will take them. When you come to think of it, what are we living for? Living to keep a handful of wealthy folk in affluence, living you and I, to bring little humans into the world, so that the rich man's ill-gotten gains will swell to greater proportions through the life-blood of our own flesh and blood. Again, the unemployed are looming on the horizon, thousands of skilled workers are on the scrap-heap, and thousands of unskilled ditto. Just pause and think what this must mean to hundreds of women and little children. The industrial field is a battlefield strewn with the corpses of the working class. "The mills of God grind slowly but they grind exceeding small." The gods in this case are the men and women who toil and sweat. Ere long they will grind out a tune that will act as a grand death march to the burial of capitalism. Higher reasoning powers have developed among them. The so-called common people are beginning to ask questions. The workers are beginning to tire of acquiescing in the robbery of themselves, and much murmuring is being heard. Does the civilised world ever give a thought as to what becomes of, and what suffering has to be gone through by the widows and orphans of the men who are being slaughtered at the war? I mean the working men, who through mistaken ideas of patriotism are at present doing the bidding of the ruling class. Now, don't you think it is time you studied Socialism and helped to end this class struggle? You who would be free must strike the blow. All the evils of war, unemployment, high prices, etc., have a cause, and they are only effects of the cause, but they are going to be keenly felt in the near future. Well then, women workers, get ready to free yourselves from your bondage of wage-slavery, and every other ill existing under capitalism. Read and educate yourselves, so as to be ready to take your place and help to usher in the era of freedom. Then there will be no room for parasites, no room for rulers, and no room for slaves.

The great subject to-day is the education and organisation of the working class men and women. So women should do all they can to become organised to resist the oppression they are subjected to, but most of all to fit themselves to take their places in the administration of the Socialist republic.

Our blood splashes upward, O our tyrants,
And your purple shows your path:
But the child's sob curseth deeper in
silence
Than the strong man in his wrath.

portant as votes. I wish you were preaching the futility of it instead!" Surely, surely, friend critic, that would be playing more than ever into the hands of the enemy, and would be allowing the master class to carry out without opposition the little plan they are contemplating of enfranchising the women of the master class only, while leaving the working women more unrepresented than ever. What is, at present, we would ask, the alternative of voting? We postulate that the work for the Parliament of the near future is not the government of individuals, but the administration of things. And until some other plan can be devised we see no alternative but to cast our vote—whether in business or trade union matters, whether for municipal or Parliamentary administration—for the individual we desire should represent us. We are out for dynamic changes, and we intend to create a democratic machine which shall help to bring those changes about.

—Adult Suffragist.

A correspondent writes us, stating that he is a member of the N.S.W. Political League, but "constantly reads the 'International' and enjoys it." We are very glad to learn that he reads this paper. We know of no paper from which he would be likely to derive more benefit. He should recommend it to other Leaguers.

The Modern Press.

The late Pope, in his dying moments, sadly deplored the vanishing power of the Church. Once, he said, the Church was powerful enough to prevent war, but now such power has vanished.

There is a great truth here, a truth which the present war has made manifest, and which the dying Pope clearly saw. The power of the Church has gone. Once it could prevent or provoke war, now it can do neither. Its power has passed into other hands, and all it can do is to bless the wars that others initiate.

The power that the Churches' spokesmen once possessed is now wielded by the writers of the press. They are the new preachers. Into their hands has passed the means of promoting peace or stirring up strife. The words which the Prophet put into the mouth of Jehovah himself: "I the Lord create peace and make evil," might fittingly now be spoken by a Hearst or a Harmsworth, for they undoubtedly have the power to not only stir up strife, but to "make the wicked for the evil day."

We were told by cable that during his dying moments the late "Prisoner of the Vatican" was repeatedly asked to bless the arms of contending nations, and that he refused and replied: "I bless Peace." He was not asked by his fellow Christian rulers to bless peace, or to endeavor to promote it. No, he was merely desired to bless the wholesale murder promoted by the men of affairs who loom so large in the columns of the press.

The Pope's opposition to the war did not seem to have much influence on the Powers engaged. They went about the business of destroying each other "in the name of God," and with "God's help," with the same enthusiasm as if he had never spoken. A mightier voice than his was proclaiming in "Christian England," "Holy Russia," and "Protestant Germany," the "righteousness of the war," and the "justice of the cause," and Christian was so busy destroying Christian that the Pope's attitude was soon forgotten.

The Press was speaking in "the name of the Lord," and was manufacturing public opinion; and the Press is now the first great power. Mightier than Kaiser or Czar, the Press wields an absolute sceptre. It rules and reigns, and the proud and wealthy, the tyrannical and despotic, as well as the enslaved and exploited acknowledge and feel its power.

Admirers of the Press tell us that the Press is the servant of the public, but it is the public's master. It is the great machine which makes public opinion. It is the channel through which the thoughts of its owners flow into every brain. The thoughts and sentiments concocted for the unthinking are conveyed to their minds by the Press. And how does it utilize its power?

Does the Press use its power in the interests of humanity? Does it educate and enlighten the people? Does it try to destroy prejudice and promote international fraternity? Is it the upholder of justice and the opponent of wrong? Does it uphold the oppressed and oppose the oppressor?

Study the papers around you—Tory, Liberal, or Laborite. What do they offer? They glorify wealth and exploitation; emphasise the sayings of ruling politicians; describe in detail the doings of royal persons and aristocratic parasites; sing the praises of warmongers and War Trust magnates; report the inanities of dignitaries of the Church, which has for centuries helped to keep the people in ignorance and subjection.

The object and aim of the modern Press is to defend and strengthen the existing regime. To do this, there is no meanness which it is not prepared to present as high-minded nobility; no crime which it does not laud as right and proper; and no racial whom it does not eulogise as a hero. The end justifies the means, and the end is to preserve and strengthen Capitalism with all its wrongs and iniquities.

The Modern Press laughs at consistency. What it supported yesterday it tramples in the dust to-day. What it trampled on yesterday, it raises on high to-day. The trickster whom it kicked so hard last week, because his followers seemed weak, it fawns on and worships to-day, because he seems likely to succeed, and is, moreover, susceptible to the lure of gold. So long as he can be used as supported, but woe unto him when he becomes useless to the Press and its owners.

The city slum poisons the workers' children in thousands, but the slum owner is a supporter of the Press and is above criticism. The Moloch of War devours hundreds of thousands, but to the Press War is divine. What a glorious career the murdering business holds out to rising marduk! What victories, promotions, and



fame is there for those who fight for King and country against cowardly enemies! How proudly ought parents to send their sons to do battle for God and the right! And if they are riddled with shot or torn to fragments by shrapnel, how gloriously they died! What heavenly delight to have sons with legs or arms shot away—what glorious honor! Of course, the cowardly enemy dies in disgrace. No honor is his, though the Press of his country may falsely assert that he has covered himself with immortal glory.

The workers who toil in unhealthy factories and ill-ventilated mines are fed and mentally gorged by the Press, which soothes them with tales of the freedom they enjoy, and the superiority of conditions in their country compared with those of neighbouring peoples. This is done so that they may remain the willing slaves of the more fortunate ones, who by cunning and class legislation, have the power to dupe and exploit them. They become poorer and poorer, while those for whom they work become more opulent and extravagant. Their home-life is embittered by want, and their children are pressed into the service of insatiable greed. At first the wife takes the husband's place in the slave mill, but soon the children take the place of the wife. Meanwhile, the Press clamors for more wage-slaves. Be fruitful and multiply the number of slaves, and let us have unlimited immigration to supplement the supply afforded by a lagging birthrate.

If the workers become conscious of their degraded condition, and become rebellious, the Press first intimidates and then calls for their destruction. They must be taught to respect law and order. It would never do to allow the rabble to rule. Then the police and military are set upon them, and they are clubbed and bayoneted into subjection.

Occasionally the Press dabbles in social reform—in other countries, and conditions are described in their true light, but the workers must understand that such conditions do not obtain in their country. Their country is perfect! Their homes and standard of comfort are far above all others!

The Press, more than the Church, is now the main stay of capitalist society. It supplies the chloroform which deadens the faculties of the working class. Far more on the Press than on the Police and Army rests the modern class-state, with its economic injustice, its thieves ethics, and its mental disablement and unmaning.

Deliverance from this malevolent and demoralising influence can only be brought about by those who know of its existence. On them devolves the work of replacing the unhealthy fare with the healthy. In other words, they must see that the antidote to the poison is liberally supplied to those who need it. The working-class must be urged to avoid the poisoned spring from which it is now drinking. And as the Press can only be exposed by the Press, self-defence demands that a new Press be established to confront the old. Against the capitalist Press, with its reforms, tariffs, and church news, its glories of war and magnificent butcheries, the workers must sustain a Workers' Press, edited and controlled by workers.

The workers are the majority. They are millions, while the owners of the Capitalist press with their hirelings are only thousands. How comes it then, that every attempt to establish a workers' Press is doomed to languish in difficulty, and often to die in despair? It is because the majority of the workers read the enemy's papers and have their minds crippled. The food which they partake of has the effect of a powerful narcotic. Whoever partakes of the food offered by the daily Press forgets his friends, his family, and himself, and becomes a mental derelict who drifts hopelessly with the current or frantically raises his hands against his class. You can hear them in the trains, trams, hotels, public assemblies, and even in their trade unions, cursing the views of those who are fighting for them, and applauding those of the hostile Press. They are drilled by the enemy for the enemy. They are armed with lies against themselves. When they realise this, and turn from the hostile Press to their own, they will transfer the Power which the Capitalists now wield through their Press, to themselves through their own Press.

The worker who subscribes to the papers for his enemies, while neglecting his own, commits mental suicide. He is false to his class, to his brothers and sisters, and his children. The worker who does this is adopting the surest and most effective means of enslaving himself. The worker who supports his own Press is seizing the readiest weapon for his own deliverance.

Why not support your own Press and transfer power to yourselves? Why not deliver yourselves from the thralldom of your enemy's Press?

Socialism will give equal opportunity to all.

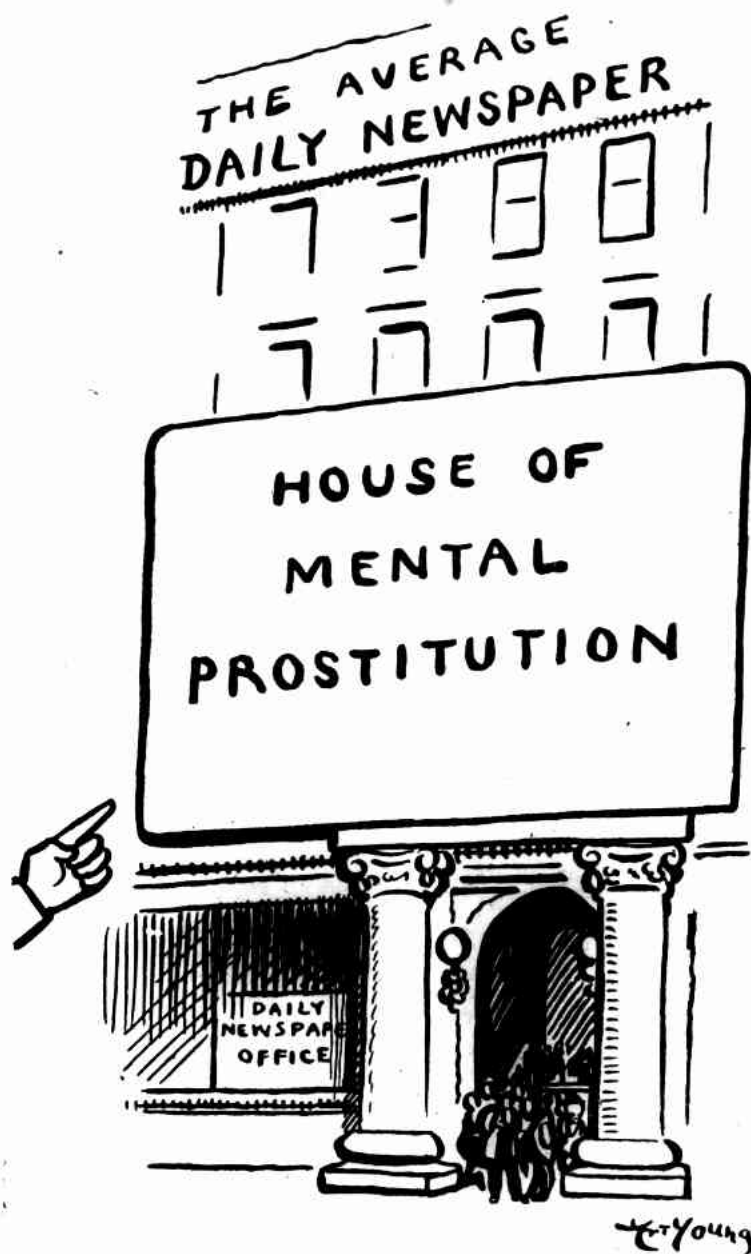
WAR! WAR! WAR!

SYDNEY NEWSBOYS ATTACKED!

"More Atrocities," in Sydney.

**Enemy Attacks Australian Boys and Attempts to Starve them in-
to Submission!**

The Boys hold a strong position but the Enemy's artillery is deadly. False news issued daily. Wholesale Lying and cheating. Scabs, Spies and Bogus newsmen engaged.



The War has afforded the Sydney evening papers a fine opportunity to increase their enormous profits.

Hitherto the proprietors have had a luxurious time but they were not satisfied. Capitalists never are.

They had their eye on the Newsboy's earnings and determined to cut them down. Capitalists simply dote on low wages!

They chose the time when thousands are out of work to make an attack on the Newsboys knowing that an unemployed Army usually affords a plentiful supply of Scabs and strike-breakers. The Capitalists always use Scabs and Strike-breakers. While squeaking about "more atrocities" by Germans in Europe, the Proprietors of the Evening Papers attack defenceless boys and attempt to Starve and Exterminate Woman and Children who depend upon their moderate earnings. Capitalists always do this. They are committing "more atrocities" than the Germans in our midst. Therefore don't hate the Germans! Hate the Enemy in our Midst, The piratical Capitalists!

The Boys hold a strong position, but the public must help them to fight the Enemy, which has the murderous engine of war—the lying, deadly press. The Capitalists own the press and use it against the workers and the country's interest.

The present attack on the boys is an attack on the Workers' Home; the Workers' right to Marriage; and on the Church which the Worker attends, because the press is bearing False Witness Against its Neighbor—the Boys on Strike. If you doubt this, read the Evening Papers' Statements as to the Boys earnings.

According to the statement issued by the Press, the Boys are earning more than any other class of Workers, more than Members of Parliament, more than most professional men, and more than is good for them.

According to this bitterly biased and unblushing statement, Boys who are ill-clad, shoeless, and keenly eager to earn a mere living; Boys who go out in all weathers, and risk their lives in the crowded streets at all hours, are earning as much as £10 a week.

The Statement is absurd. It is more absurd than many of the Statements they print about the War. The proprietors would have us believe that the boys sell nearly half a million papers daily. The proprietors assume that the public is an Ass fit only to be fed on Chaff and Thistles.

The proprietors are calling for Recruits to fight the Germans. We Socialists call for Recruits to Reinforce the Boys and fight the lying, cheating Capitalists who own the papers.

If the Boys are beaten the press will attack other workers. It is the workers' sworn enemy. It is the friend of Spies! Scabs! and Pimps! It is the enemy and the great siege gun of the Capitalists.

The press claims the right to control the streets, to say who shall be permitted to sell papers and who shall not. It is issuing badges and permits to "honest respectable boys" who are willing to scab on their fellows and help the Capitalists to make more profits. This is Capitalist impudence. The workers make the streets. Let the workers

see that they are used by No Class as a monopoly.

The press calls upon Young men to get into the Ranks and Fight for their King and Country. It says pour King and Country calls you!

We Socialists say Alright! The Fight is here, where the Boys are attacked by a Ruthless and cold-blooded foe.

Get into the Ranks by all means! Fight in the War—the Great Class War!

Don't Buy and Sell the Evening Papers. Buy and Sell the INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST which has been fighting this fight for years.

The INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST will soon come out DAILY if you make that possible by buying it.

When it does it will make War upon our real enemies—the undying foes of the Working Class—the Capitalists.

Don't Scab on the Boys by buying the Evening papers! Spike the Siege Gun of the Capitalists! Support your own paper, the future Working Class Daily, the INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST.

Socialism is humanity's only hope, All else is illusion.

The Miracle.

He is a great joy to me is Wilson. He is a pessimist, and ever and always he has a grievance.

His particular grievance yesterday had to do with that phenomenal class, whose numbers and intelligence are so greatly out of proportion to each other, and who give the lie to those unbelievers who assert that the days of miracles belong to the past, for was there ever a greater miracle than the present day working class.

What a miracle or marvel of stupidity it is. Whenever was the like of it.

What a prodigy of excessive liberality, and how impatient it becomes when one expatiates and suggests that it is giving too much.

"Give too much!" it will angrily shout back at you, "why we can never give too much!" or it will laugh at your identity of not understanding.

"We give! why you fool, what have we to give, we haven't got anything to give!"

"It's our bosses, who do the giving and the very least we can do in return is a bit of work for those who feed us."

"Who finds and gives us the work?" it will ask with delightful simplicity.

"When you interrupt and say, 'Alas! who does the work,' it will shout with one voice, 'why we do!'"

"And yet after doing the work, you have nothing to give away, and hardly enough for yourselves."

"Where has the result of your work gone?" "Ah," it says, with the alertness of one guarding his very life or something extremely valuable, a whole lot of "our dear socialist."

Was ever there a miracle like that? you point out that it is the working class who produce the whole of the wealth in the world, food, houses, clothing and everything else, and yet they live in degradation and misery, whilst on the other hand the non-working parasitic class live in luxury and ease.

You suggest that he who works should enjoy the full fruit of his toil, and that he who won't work should not get anything to eat.

You suggest that Madam, my new master, who consider their very souls jeopardized by soiling their hands with the filthy wages, and who regard their fellow humans, the working class, as some kind of vastly inferior animals, should be compelled to find for themselves their fine houses, their fine cars, their fine clothes, their fine food, and you suggest that they should gain their existence by working for the general interest of good food-stuffs for the poor.

The miracle laughs as he gives a general reply, and one receives the impression that life to it would not be worth the living if Madam and my Master were not there, engaged only spend for it the result of the laborable labor, or, maybe, it will get rid of your blasphemous and with right and will denounce you as a priest or priestess, a hypocrite, who would turn the world upside down.

What! threaten Madam with a Master who so ungrudgingly finds work for her?

Whom would it work for, a Master, and my Master were not there to feed her?

You seize on the opportunity to find a spirit of enthusiastic and bold faith in the advantages to be derived from working for itself.

The miracle gasps in astonishment at your absurdity in suggesting such a thing, and by a loud voice denounces you as a man of impossibilities.

You point out that the supposed impossibilities can be overcome by the intelligent co-operation of the workers.

That as work is necessary to the life of mankind, in other words, that mankind must work to live, the workers to receive the full pay for their labor must unite industrially, indeed, is industrial unity is his greatest necessity, and as our means of transport and communication have annihilated the distances that separate continents from each other, and as the peoples of all countries belong to the same family, and are identified, and as so-called science is the procuring of human happiness and well-being, this great necessity, intelligent industrial unity, must become international, and that the peoples of the World cannot do on happiness until they eliminate their striving for godliness, and substitute in place of it a clean and healthy understanding of the human body.

For as mankind—individual happiness depends on the well-being of his body, a complete knowledge of the composition of his body, its necessary wants and functions, etc., should be known to each individual.

The miracle, however, listens with impatience, and finally denounces it all as being empty declamatory, and with a sense of great importance puts its shoulder to the wheel, humming to itself, as with renewed energy, humming to itself, it completes the gun that is to shoot itself.

"Work boys work and be contented!"

No! of all miracles there has not been one to compare with this one.

And Wilson; it appears that Wilson had been having trouble with one of his tenants.

The way he told me about it was:—

Why damn it all, the fellow is over three weeks behind with his rent and he had the

Capitalism Made War Inevitable.

The following, by George D. Herron, appeared in New York "Call," May 17, 1913. Prof. Herron saw then that the present war was inevitable:—

"It is Germany that holds the key to the present European situation. The rest of Europe is merely waiting for Germany to move. As a capitalist power, it is necessary for Germany to expand. Nothing else can save her from collapse. It is certain that she will very soon put her strength to the test. It is impossible for her to draw back, or much longer to delay. Her dilemma offers her the choice between war and bankruptcy. Of course, as a Socialist nation, she would have no such dilemma; but as a capitalist Power she is bound to choose between expansion and a collapse of her present military and industrial system. She is preparing to strike soon and swiftly, and to put all her resources to the supreme proof."

"Germany's first enemy is France. And France, as the banker of Europe, is determined to reduce Germany by economic pressure. She is determined that Germany shall be financially dependent upon Paris. And she is also determined to get back Alsace and Lorraine."

"Then there is England—an exploiter of the world, the most universal plunderer since Rome. England is resolved that Germany shall not expand. She is resolved to keep the earth she has stolen. And Germany can expand only through possessing some portions of the earth already occupied by England, either in fact or intention."

"On the east is Russia, fast becoming the dependency of English Capitalism in industrial development, as she is already dependent upon the Parisian bankers for her governmental finances. Russia has reorganized since the Japanese war. She is prepared for the struggle, though preferring to delay it as long as possible. The immediate issue between Germany and Russia is the occupation and exploitation of Asiatic Turkey. The Turkish Empire has no longer an actual existence. It is but a theory and a shadow, to disappear as soon as the bondholders have made arrangements for the payment of the interest on their bonds. They will make the Balkans pay—if they can."

A CONTRAST.

"Why don't you go and volunteer?" was the retort of the gatekeeper at the Labour Bureau yesterday, when the usual massed body of unemployed demanded admittance. His advice was unheeded. The crowd rolled in.

After a while they got tired of waiting for the jobs that were not, and one mounted the stump. "It's no good fooling about here, boys. We'll go and interview the Acting Premier. If he won't do anything for us, we'll visit him again to-morrow." The call was answered, and about 100 men straggled off to Macquarie-street. Their reception there was chilly. Three stalwart policemen barred the way. However, after a weary wait, a small deputation gained admittance. Their mission was fruitless. They were passed on to another Minister. His reception of them was equally frigid. Back to the Acting Premier, and back again to Mr. Griffith. Thus they spent the bright, sunny morning. At Victoria Barracks equally stalwart men were answering their country's call. They weren't worrying about work. —Sydney "Daily Telegraph."

The Telegraph prints that as a contrast between patriots and those who would rather work than fight. The contrast is supposed to discredit those who won't fight, but it doesn't. The men who are enrolling are doing so because they are out of work and want food and shelter. The others refuse the fighting job because they don't see what they have to fight for. They have no land, houses, or other property, and the country refuses them a job and a living, and the country's rulers either refuse to see them when they want to state their position, or hunt them from pillar to post with frigid looks and discouraging remarks. Even the gatekeeper at the Government Labor Bureau insults them when they go there. So what have they to fight for?

hardihood to ask me to wait awhile longer. I suppose the next thing he will want me to keep him altogether.

I explained to Wilson that such a suspicion was altogether unfair, for as I told him, your tenant is probably doing his best and would regard your proposition of wanting to keep him as most offensive, for he is one of the miracle's and regards it as his duty, even to the extent of denying himself and

Dealing With Unemployment

N.S.W. Government, to meet the lessened requirements of farmers who cannot make share-farming pay, and who cannot get land of their own, is reducing the number of trains being run, and also the number of railway employees who have been running them. The Government practically tells the men that as the land and means of production are in the hands of monopolists, its railways are unprofitable, and therefore, must be partly scrapped or kept out of use. As for the discharged men, they are told to go to the front and kill and be killed. Capitalism has got Holman and Co. in a tight place, but the slaves who are suffering cannot be made to see it. They will have to feel before they see, and Labor Government is destined to make them feel.

At a meeting of delegates representing a number of metropolitan and suburban branches of the N.S.W. Political Labor League, held at the Trades Hall, Sydney, last week, to discuss the unemployment question, it was decided to send a delegate to the annual conference to secure the suspension of the standing orders for "the purpose of discussing thoroughly the unemployment problem, brought about by the present war crisis." The delegates evidently don't understand the problem they are dealing with, or they wouldn't talk about it being "brought about by the present war crisis." The problem was here before the war. The war didn't bring it about, though it accentuated it. The unemployed problem has its roots in the capitalist system itself, and the league's representatives in Parliament are only tiddling with it. Their idea of settling it seems to be to get the unemployed away to the front, "where the wicked soon cease from troubling and the weary are sent to everlasting rest."

At the recent annual conference of the Railway Workers and General Labourers' Association, it was resolved to urge the State Government to open stores on public works, and bring "all classes of fodder within the purview of the Necessary Commodities Commission." The latter part of the urge seems somehow to hint that the delegates thought the workers should have cheaper fodder. Well, the price of chaff is going up, though Labor Government chaff is fairly plentiful and cheap. As for the stores on public works, what is to be hoped from them while Labor Government helps to hold the land and all sources of supply out of use? Wake up Railway Workers and General Sloggers. Don't be put off with chaff.

The Southern miners have been discussing the state of the labor market at Lithgow. Several coal mines have closed, and at others the men are only working one or two days a fortnight. Other industries are similarly paralysed. The miners' officials, after discussion, were unable to make any statement, and things are drifting from bad to worse. Many men have already volunteered for service, and others have left for Sydney, where they will occupy seats in the parks. This news is gathered from the press, and it shows that things are bad enough at the "Birmingham" of the State. We remember the time when Socialist speakers were wont to journey to Lithgow for the purpose of telling the slaves there things they ought to know, and how they refused to listen. Now they are experiencing what they were told was coming, we may well wonder if they are getting any wiser. If they are still unconvinced, they are only fit for cannon fodder.

Anent the appeal of Sydney Labor Council to the Attorney-General to remove Mr. Justice Heydon from his position as head of the State Arbitration Court, Sydney "Daily Telegraph" says: "But because a judge does not satisfy a particular set of litigants is not so much a reason for shifting him as for keeping him there. A judge is as human as anybody else." Of course, and when the disgruntled litigants are workers, it is proof to the employing class that the judge is doing their work well enough to be kept in his place. A judge is "as human as anyone else," and if drawn from a particular class will serve the interests of that class and offend its opponents. A big sermon might be preached from the "Telegraph's" text on the advisability of capturing the parliamentary machine, and the State's administrative power to appoint judges and other officials by the working class, but it

his family, to keep you and your family. Being a pessimist however Wilson refused to be comforted, wherein he gave me great joy for to see a full grown man making a mountain out of a mole-hill, appeals to me as being peculiarly amusing in fact its a miracle. F. S. BARRETT.

Sydney Newsboys' Strike.

Up to the time of going to press the Sydney Newsboys were still on strike.

Early last week the chances of a win looked good. None of the evening papers were being sold, but in their place a special issue of the International containing an exposure of the capitalist press, was being circulated as widely as possible. Towards the end of the week, however, a change ensued, and the boys suddenly dropped the International, which was selling freely, and ceased to fight per medium of effective printed matter. Since then we have learned that the Trades Hall officials have taken control of the strike and bound the boys over not to sell this paper. We are loth to believe this, but there is the fact that the boys are refusing to sell the paper and avail themselves of its assistance.

As a result of such tactics, the evening papers stand to score a decisive win. They are subjecting the boys to the starving and strikebreaking process, and the boys are not putting their case before those who are desirous of knowing it. They are silent when they ought to be circulating the written word as widely as possible. Had they continued as they commenced they might have been back at work ere this, for capitalist papers fear nothing more than a fair hearing for those they are fighting.

The International would have given the boys a fair hearing and would have helped them to win, but they refused its aid. Now we are witnessing one of the old fruitless, wearying struggles with, most likely, the usual result. We are sorry for the boys, but confident that the lesson they will receive will not be lost on them.

Speaking to a representative of Sydney "Daily Telegraph," on January 15, Mr. Griffith, N.S.W. Minister for Works, stated that he had refused, and would continue to refuse, to receive deputations from the unemployed, as it was merely a waste of time, in view of the fact that it was not possible for him to do anything for them. He mentioned that he had told these gentlemen before, and that it was useless to keep on telling them that every penny voted by Parliament had been appropriated by his department, and the only means by which he could find work for those now unemployed would be either by dismissing men employed by the department, further reducing the men's time, or reducing their wages. He had no intention of doing any of these things, and it was obviously quite useless for the unemployed to keep on seeing him on the subject. "I should like," he said, "to have enough money to find work for every able-bodied man in New South Wales at full time and full wages. It would be a very good thing for the country if I could, as every unemployed man is a waste of money; but I am limited by the money available for wages. No amount of talking, no number of deputations, could affect that position."

By degrees the truth comes out. The Labor Government can do nothing for the unemployed because it has no money, and the reason it has no money is because the pawnbrokers in London won't furnish any. The Government has no other way of living than upon borrowed money. It has no idea or intention of commandeering the great areas of agricultural land and capital now held out of use and setting unemployed farmers and other workers to work. It merely drifts and asks the unemployed to leave it alone. "No amount of talking, no number of deputations," can shift Labor Ministers. They are helpless in the grip of the pawnbrokers.

"There is a distinct feeling amongst men engaged in the cattle trade in this State that meat prices are going up higher still, and affirm the statement that the day of cheap meat has departed."—Sydney "Daily Telegraph." The "feeling" amongst cattle men is born of knowledge. The knowledge that certain speculators are tightening their grip on the trade enables them to accurately forecast the result. Years ago it was quite easy to see that the day of cheap land was going forever, for speculators were at work sending prices up. Now the day of cheap land has gone, the land having passed into the hands of speculators. About the only thing that is cheap is man himself. Human beings who sell their energy are dirt cheap. No one seeks to monopolise working men, because, to rob and skin them it isn't necessary to own them. All that is necessary is to own the land and instruments of production, and you practically own them. It is useless to protest against prices of land, food and clothing going up so long as we allow certain people the power to arrange things in their own interest.

should be unnecessary to all but ballot-box smashers on the one hand, and on the other, to the ruling class now in control.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

Objective.—The social ownership with Democratic control of the means of Production, Distribution and Exchange.
Headquarters: 116 Goulburn St., Sydney.
LUKE JONES.
General Secretary.

CENTRAL EXECUTIVE.

The Central Executive will meet at Headquarters on Sat. Jan. 23. All delegates are requested to attend.

LUKE JONES.
Gen. Sec.

SYDNEY BRANCH.

On Sunday night last Comrade Roche gave an address in the Hall on "The Development of Man." Roche very ably demonstrated how man had travelled through the ages until he has finally reached the height which proves him superior to all other existence on the planet. Man has developed from an Ape-like existence previous to the Monkey. It is a fallacy to say that man is actually from the monkey. Organically, in his the Lecturer's opinion man has reached the zenith of his development. This opinion is substantiated by facts brought to bear by various "Anthropologists." From now on, Man's development would be mental. The cause for this development is economic. In his the Lecturer's opinion had man in his primitive existence had food in plenty and to spare his development would have been practically nil. An instance of this kind is found in the "Australian Aboriginal." As it was, the greater part of the Human race was compelled to contend with adverse and stringent natural conditions which in its turn compelled consequent change and adaptation, man's philosophical development has been along the same line. Continual material and economic change has compelled man to recognise the fallacy of his previous conceptions and so man's ideas have changed. At one time man worshipped Spooks, Ghosts, etc. Now he is beginning the existence of an all powerful Supernatural existence. Man will continue to change his ideas and develop mentally eventually attaining economic liberty from slavery to institutions which he himself has produced, eventually reaching a high state of mental development and activity. Discussion ranged round the assertion that organic development had reached its zenith.

Roll up to the popular social on Friday January 22 at 8 p. m. in our Hall (369 Pitt-St.). Look out for Sunday's Lecture in the same Hall. Scott Bennett probably Sunday week. Subject: "Hypatia."

The Lecturer for next Sunday night, in our Hall will be by Comrade Jones.

J. Q., Sec.

MEBOURNE BRANCH.

Since our secretary's absence, we have endeavoured to keep all our activities going strong, and have done so notwithstanding absence of several of our workers owing to holidays, and out of work, etc. No meetings, either indoor or outdoor, have lapsed. We have commenced the New Year well, and hope to continue to do good work in this city. Very fine meetings have been held at Yarra Bank, and indoor lectures given by our visiting comrades O'Shannassy and Wood, have been well attended.

Comrade Jeff was at Yarra meeting, after being absent previous Sunday (his first absence for over 12 months). He was assisted by aforesaid visiting comrades and another visitor from Queensland, Comrade Alf Zeegan, who has been having a spell for some considerable time, came also to fill any breach, and keep the flag flying. He was in his old fighting form, and always manages to bring about a volume of criticism and questions which Socialist lecturers enjoy, for it shows an awakening audience.

Last night (Sunday), Comrade St. Clair lectured at our hall. The attendance was fair. He made some very startling statements for a supposed revolutionary Socialist, and was rather severely criticised by his audience. Our general meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 12th inst.

Min. Sec. and Sec. Pro. Tenn.

HOBART BRANCH.

Just think, a Socialist party in conservative little Tassie! Why, the wowers and the Labor jingoes will hardly believe it. Nevertheless, we are here, and here to stay. We have had several successful meetings on the Domain. Comrades M. J. Foley and Cliff Hill are the speakers, and on Sunday we had comrade Angus McDonnell, of the V.S.P., with us, and he delivered a splendid address on the principles of Socialism, attracting quite a large crowd in spite of the fact that we had the Labor jingo clique on one side,

and a religious fanatic on the other. We are rather short of speakers, so the advent of Mac was hailed with delight. We secured three new members, and sold all our small stock of papers, with the result that we are ordering an extra three dozen per week. To establish a branch of the A.S.P. in Hobart was a hard task, but now that we have succeeded, we intend to keep the red flag flying, confident that in the end success will crown our efforts.

C. H., Secretary.

AMONGST THE SUGAR WORKERS.

It is a long time since I wrote to the branch informing them of my doings. Leaving that beautiful city of the Czar and his Cossacks, Brisbane, I found my way down to the home of the sugar-slaves on the Richmond River. What did I find on my arrival? A lot of talk about striking for better conditions. Being a rebel, I got to work, and when the so-called strike was declared, I got the opportunity of spreading the Socialist position. The strike lasted two weeks, the men being asked to go back so as to enable the union to get a Wages Board. Mr. Hughes, of the I.W.W. and myself were elected on the Strike Committee, and did good work by trying to educate the poor deluded wage-slaves. After all was settled, and the men returning to work, the farge entitled the "Wages Board" came on. I gave evidence, which was more Socialistic than anything else, but was kept in bounds by the parasites. We had a splendid lot of Socialist and industrial literature, which was appreciated by the slaves, and helped to remove the cobwebs from their brains. Of course, it took a great deal of talk to convince some of them. I was elected rep. of the A.W.U., along with C. Stevens, another rebel, and it was surprising the number of converts we made for the movement. The head chemist remarked one day, "There are two of you who do all the agitating and talk, and the rest follow like a lot of sheep. The truth must have struck him in the stomach and hurt him. The conditions in the mill were frightful, the food being awful. That got me going, and straight away a deputation for butter and jam was drawn up and presented to the manager. He hummed and talked, but had to give in to the Mass. This didn't cause any love between us, and I was a marked man. The war broke out, and as usual to get in the limelight, a patriotic fund was started, and of all the dope I ever heard the manager used it when trying to get the slaves to be patriotic and contribute. I spoke strongly against it, and made lots of enemies among the men and the sweaters. One of the rebels asked the slaves one day, "What would you sooner be, a live coward or a dead hero. Ninety per cent. wished to be a live coward, and didn't intend letting themselves be targets. For speaking the truth and spreading the gospel of discontent my fellow comrade was told to go, and I was warned. I took sick, and never gave the parasite the chance of hunting me. Back among the boys in Brisbane, I am fighting as game as ever, and when I arrive in Sydney, will endeavour to fight just as hard as I have done during the last 18 months. Wishing all comrades good health, good luck, and with best wishes for yourself, comrade Editor,

Yours for the Day,

GEORGE HENRY.

NEWTOWN.

Newtown Branch.—Rooms: 41 Enmore-Rd., Newtown. Propaganda meetings: Friday evenings, Johnstone-St., Leichhardt. Saturday and Sunday evenings, Newtown Bridge.

Ray Everett, Secretary.

Propaganda Fixtures.

Friday night: Johnstone-St., Leichhardt.
Chair: C. Jackson, Speakers: J. Brown, J. Roche.

Saturday night: Newtown Bridge.
Chair: C. Jackson, Speakers: A. Thomas, P. O'Connell.

Sunday night: Newtown Bridge.
Chair: W. Page, Speakers: C. Jackson, J. Roche.

At the last business meeting of the above Branch, the following motion was carried:

That the decision of Conference re "As to Unionism," be challenged and a referendum of the Party demanded, to decide whether the words "Therefore we endorse the Detroit I. W. W." be added to the present clause.

Every new subscriber you get for "The International Socialist" is a blow struck at Capitalism.

The Australasian Socialist Party.

Rules and Constitution.

1. Name.

The name of the organisation shall be the Australasian Socialist Party.

2. How Constituted.

The Party shall be composed of such Socialist bodies in Australia and New Zealand as shall

accept the objects, statement of principles, and policy of the A.S.P. and pay a capitation fee of one shilling per financial member per annum.

3. Headquarters.

The headquarters of the Party shall be so place as the Annual Conference shall fix upon.

4. Officers.

The officers of the Party shall consist of a General Secretary, General Treasurer, and two Trustees, all of whom shall be elected by a vote of the Party, and must be financial members of the Party for six months.

5. Central Executive.

The Central Executive shall consist of the General Secretary, General Treasurer, two Trustees, and representatives appointed on the ratio of Conference representation by each affiliated Branch, upon the termination of the Annual Conference, and such Representatives shall sit unless they resign or are recalled, until the subsequent Annual Conference. On all business each delegate shall have a card vote equal to the number of members he or she represents, and for which sustentation fees have been paid. The Central Executive shall meet not less than once a fortnight. Its decisions other than upon urgent and formal matters shall be referred to Branches for approval or otherwise. Delegates shall report regularly to Branches every fortnight. The Executive itself shall make a quarterly report to Branches. Branches unable to send delegates to Executive meetings shall have the right to elect proxy delegates; these delegates shall be elected by the same methods as other delegates, and carry the same voting power.

6. Election of Officers.

A ballot for the positions of Officers of the Party shall be taken on Nov. 21st in each year, to be returnable within one month from that date. Nominations for such positions shall be called for not later than Nov. 1st in each year, and returnable not later than Nov. 14th in each year. The ballot shall be counted by Central Executive.

Nominations shall be in writing, and signed by two financial members of the Party, and endorsed by the member nominated. The members nominated, and nominators, shall also state the term of their membership in the party and the Branch to which they belong. A simple majority shall count in all elections of officers.

7. Annual Conference.

A Conference of branches shall be held in the month of Dec. in each year, at a place decided upon by a majority of Branches at least three months before the date of holding Conference.

Business for Conference shall be called for by the Central Executive in September of each year, and must be in the hands of the Executive not later than the last day of October, and furnished to affiliated Branches within a fortnight from that date.

The Conference shall consist of General Secretary, General Treasurer, two Trustees (neither of whom shall be eligible to vote), and Delegates from each affiliated Branch, upon the following basis:—Up to 50 members, 1 delegate; over 50 members and up to 100 members, 2 delegates; over 100 members and up to 150 members, 3 delegates. On all Conference business that has been submitted to Branches previous to Conference, each delegate shall have a card vote equal to the number of members he or she represents for which sustentation fees have been paid.

Where more than one delegate represents a branch the voting shall be equally divided between them.

On business introduced by delegates at Conference each delegate shall have one vote. Alternate or proxy delegates may be appointed by Branches. Decisions of Conference shall be final, but any decision of Conference may be challenged within six weeks by any two branches, and a referendum of the membership of the Party demanded. All decisions shall remain in force until amended or rescinded upon notice to Annual Conference.

8. Referendum.

Upon a Referendum being demanded, the Central Executive shall supply the requisite papers to each Branch within one month, and each Branch shall be allowed to count its own ballot prior to forwarding papers to Central Executive, within one month from date of ballot, the Executive to notify result of ballot within one week from receipt of papers.

9. Special Conference.

A Special Conference may be convened upon the demand of two or more Branches to deal with urgent business. The Central Executive shall forward the matter to Branches, and a majority of Branches shall decide whether the business to be dealt with is important enough to justify the calling of a Special Conference.

10. Membership.

A member may belong to any Branch, and membership cards shall be interchangeable with minimum subscription of 1s. 3d. per month for males, and 9d. per month for females and persons under the age of 18 years. Applicants for membership in any Branch shall sign a declaration endorsing the principles and policy of the A.S.P., and their special application shall be subject to the approval of a general meeting of the Branch concerned. No member shall belong to any other political organisation, but this provision shall not debar membership for purely industrial purposes in Trades Unions which are primarily industrial. Any member shall have the right to speak at the meeting of any Branch, but shall only exercise voting power at the Branch of which he or she is a member. No member shall be enrolled for more than one Branch.

No member under the age of 16 years shall be eligible for membership, and no member under the age of 18 years shall be permitted to vote on Principles and Policy, Rules and Constitution, or any Party or Branch business.

No employer of labor shall be eligible as a Party candidate for Parliament, nor shall he act as a delegate on Conference, or occupy any official position in Party or Branches.

Any member who has fallen three months in arrears, after having been given one month's notice by the Branch Secretary, shall be considered unfinancial, and be struck off the books, unless arrears have arisen through unavoidable causes.

11. Branches.

Branches shall be self-governing within the provisions of the A.S.P. Constitution and

Rules, Principles, and Policy. Branches of the A.S.P. may be formed by not less than six persons who accept the principles and policy of the A.S.P. by making application to the Central Executive and receiving endorsement. All Branches shall have the right to elect as many officers as they deem advisable, but no member shall be eligible for office, paid or honorary, in any Branch established six months unless six months a member of the Branch in which he is seeking office.

Each Branch shall notify the Central Executive of the number of financial members every half-year for the purpose of determining voting strength of delegates on Central Executive.

12. Expulsion of Members.

Any officer or member of the A.S.P., believing that any member has been guilty of a breach of the Rules or Principles or Policy of the Party, shall have power to move that the said member be called upon to show cause to the Executive of the Branch to which such member belongs, why he or she should not be expelled or otherwise penalised. The Branch Executive shall appoint a date for the hearing of the charge, of which at least 14 days' notice shall be given to such member, and if satisfied that the charge has been proved, and if it is of sufficient gravity, the Branch may suspend, or expel, such member from membership. Any member so suspended, or expelled, shall have the right to claim that the papers in connection with the case shall be sent on to the Central Executive, who shall, finally hear and determine such case.

Any member expelled from the A.S.P. shall not again be admitted to membership except at the discretion of the Central Executive or Annual Conference.

13. Suspension of Officers.

The Central Executive may suspend any Party Officer who does not fulfil his duties in the interest of the Party. When such suspension takes place, the said officer shall have the right to appeal to Branches, and the Central Executive shall forward to Branches a printed statement of the facts in connection with both sides of the case. If a majority vote of members in Branches upholds the suspension, the suspended officer shall be recalled, and his or her place filled for the remainder of the term of office by Central Executive.

14. Expulsion of Branches.

Any Branch of the A.S.P. believing that another Branch has been guilty of a breach of Rules, Principles, and Policy of the A.S.P., shall have power to move that such Branch be called upon to show cause to the Central Executive why its charter should not be cancelled. Any Branch so challenged shall be given 28 days' notice of the hearing of such charges, which shall be submitted to the Branches by the Central Executive, and in the event of the decision of the Branches upholding the charge the said Branch shall be expelled by the Central Executive. Any Branch so expelled from the A.S.P. shall not be again admitted, except at the discretion of the Central Executive or Annual Conference.

15. Vacancies.

If any extraordinary vacancy occurs among Party officers through sickness, resignation, recall, or other causes, such vacancy shall be filled by the Central Executive at a Special Meeting called for the purpose.

16. Dues.

Branches shall pay 1s. per financial member per year as sustentation fee, and as affiliation with the International Socialists Bureau, and 3d. per month per member for the upkeep of the Press; the same to be paid by purchase of stamps at 4s. 1d. per dozen from the Central Executive. At the end of each year, Branches shall return unsold stamps and be credited with same.

No subscriptions shall be received by Branches without affixing the official Party stamps to membership cards. When members are unemployed or sick, the Secretary of the Branch shall affix stamps for the term of unemployment or sickness, and initial same "unemployed" or "sick," as the case may be.

17. Official Newspapers and Pamphlets.

"The International Socialist" shall be the central and official organ of the A.S.P.

Any newspaper or pamphlet published by Branches must be submitted to the Central Executive, who shall endorse such papers or pamphlets if they are in accordance with the Principles and Policy of the A.S.P. In the event of such newspapers or pamphlets being rejected by the Central Executive, the Branch concerned shall have the right to appeal to Branches.

In the event of a paper issued by any Branch violating the Principles and Policy of the A.S.P., the charter issued to such Branch shall be immediately cancelled by the Central Executive, and the method of determining such charge shall be that provided in Rules 12 and 14.

18. Banking Account.

A Banking Account shall be opened in the names of the two Trustees, Treasurer, and Secretary, three of whose signatures shall be required for all cheques, and all accounts in connection with the Party shall be paid by cheque.

19. Emergency Questions.

When questions arise such as the Federal Referenda, on which Conference has not pronounced, the Executive shall, after submitting same to Branches, declare the attitude of the A.S.P. in connection therewith in accordance with the decision of the majority of the Branches. Such pronouncement shall be loyally supported by the Party Branches, Members, and Press, and shall be subject to review at the following Conference.

A candidate must be a member of the A.S.P. for twelve months.

No member or Branch of the A.S.P. shall enter into any alliance, temporary or permanent, with any other than a Revolutionary Socialist Party. Socialist candidates shall be selected by the Branches concerned, and where no Branch exists by the Central Executive, and before running be endorsed by the Central Executive, to which the candidate shall pledge himself.

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